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ABSTRACT

This book discusses characteristics of individuals with Asperger syndrome that affect behavior, and presents strategies for preventing behavioral problems. Chapter 1, "An Overview of the Characteristics of Asperger Syndrome that May Impact Behavior," discusses specific characteristics that affect cognition, language, socialization, sensory functions, visual processing, and behavior. Chapter 2, "The Rage Cycle and Functional Assessment of Behaviors in the Cycle," describes precursors to a behavioral outburst and strategies educators can use to prevent outbursts, such as: (1) antiseptic bouncing; (2) proximity control; (3) signal interference; (4) touch control; (5) tension defusion through humor; (6) support from routine; (7) interest boosting; (8) redirection; (9) home base (creating a safe home base for students to go to regain control); (10) acknowledging student difficulties; and (11) walking with a student without talking. This chapter also discusses functional assessment of behaviors in the rage cycle. Chapter 3, "Strategies that Promote Self-Awareness, Self-Calming, and Self-Management," discusses several interventions to prevent rage behaviors through instruction, interpretation, and restructuring. The final chapter, "Specifically for Parents," urges parents to work together to develop a home plan that addresses causes of problem behaviors, family organization and support, conflict resolution, and daily routines. (Contains 60 references.) (CR)

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